

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A ~~fastening element, to be precise a wheel nut, having~~ comprising a nut body with a widened radial collar, ~~and a thrust washer which is held rotatably and captively on the nut body by a locking means, and having~~ a cap arranged on the nut body, wherein ~~the thrust washer (13) and the cap (14) are held jointly on the nut body (11) by the locking means (16) is~~ formed as an annular edge on the thrust washer, said annular edge overlapping the widened radial collar and a flange formed at a free end of the cap in such a way that the cap and the thrust washer are held jointly on the nut body.

Claims 2-3 (Canceled).

4. (Currently amended) The ~~fastening element~~ wheel nut as claimed in claim 1 ~~or 2~~, wherein a free region (23, 23') is provided at the annular edge (17, 17') ~~is provided, which can be~~ wherein said free region is oriented radially inward after the assembly of the ~~three components; body (11, 11'), the thrust washer (13, 13') and the cap (14, 14').~~

5. (Currently amended) The ~~fastening element~~ wheel nut as claimed in claim 4, wherein the free region (23, 23') of the annular edge (17, 17') ~~can be~~ is oriented radially inward by means of a beading method.

6. (Currently amended) The ~~fastening element~~ wheel nut as claimed in claim 1 ~~or 2~~, wherein the flange (18, 18') of the cap (14, 14') lies is located on the widened radial collar (12, 12') of the nut body (11, 11').

7. (Currently amended) The ~~fastening element~~ wheel nut as claimed in claim 1 ~~or 2~~, wherein; ~~above the collar (12, 12'), the body (11, 11') has a step-shaped shoulder (19, 19') running around,~~ positioned adjacent to the widened radial collar and wherein the cap (14, 14') is provided, ~~above~~ adjacent to the flange (18, 18'), with a step (20, 20') adapted to the shape of the step-shaped shoulder (19, 19').

8. (Currently amended) The ~~fastening element~~ wheel nut as claimed in claim 1 ~~or 2~~, wherein; ~~with the fastening element assembled, the~~ a free region (23, 23') of the annular edge (17, 17') and the ~~thrust washer (13, 13') is contiguous to,~~ flush with and in a ~~leaktight leakproof~~ manner ~~with,~~ to the ~~step (20, 20') formed on the cap (14, 14').~~

9. (Currently amended) The ~~fastening element~~ wheel nut as claimed in claim 1 ~~or 2~~, wherein the cap (14, 14') sits on the nut body (11, 11') by means of a press fit.

10. (Currently amended) The ~~fastening element~~ wheel nut as claimed in claim 1 ~~or 2~~, wherein at least one ~~of the surfaces (27, 28, 27', 28')~~ surface of the nut body (11, 11') and of the thrust washer (13, 13') which ~~lie on one another~~ face each other is provided with a central recess (21, 21') ~~running around,~~ in such a way that the nut body (11, 11') and the thrust washer (13, 13') ~~lie on one another~~ are in contact only in their outer radial region.

11. (Currently amended) The ~~fastening element~~ wheel nut as claimed in claim 1 ~~or 2~~, wherein a sealing means is provided between the locking means (16, 16') and the widened radial collar (12, 12') and the cap (14, 14').

12. (Currently amended) The ~~fastening element~~ wheel nut as claimed in claim 11, wherein the sealing means is provided between ~~the free region (23, 23') of the edge (17, 17') of the thrust~~

~~washer (13, 13')~~ and the collar (12, 12') or the widened radial collar and the flange (18, 18') of the cap (14, 14').

13. (Currently amended) The ~~fastening element~~ wheel nut as claimed in claim 10, wherein the sealing means is a sealing ring (22, 22') or a sealing washer which is arranged between the flange (18, 18') of the cap (14, 14'), said flange lying on the widened radial collar (12, 12') of the nut body (11, 11'), and ~~the~~ a radially inward-oriented free region (23, 23') of the annular edge (17, 17') of the thrust washer (13, 13').

Claims 14-15 (Canceled).